

In The Claims:

Please amend the following claims:

Claim 1. (original) A prism made of transparent glass comprising prism surfaces subjected to light, and corner portions adjacent to the prism surfaces,

wherein surfaces of the corner portions are fire-polished surfaces, and

wherein a compressive stress layer having stress of 0.1 to 10MPa is formed in the surface of the corner portion.

Claim 2. (original) A prism according to claim 1, wherein a sectional area perpendicular to each of the prism surfaces is equal to or less than 100mm².

Claim 3. (presently amended) A prism according to claim 1 [~~or 2~~], wherein the prism satisfies a relation of $L \geq 1.5D/2^{0.5}$, where D represents a diameter of a circumscribed circle of a section perpendicular to the prism surfaces, and L represents a length of the prism in a direction parallel to the prism surfaces.

Claim 4. (presently amended) A prism according to [any one of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein an optical film is formed on the prism surface.

Claim 5. (original) A method for producing a prism, comprising the steps of:
preparing a glass base material made of transparent glass, the glass base material having surfaces to be prism surfaces after forming, the Ra value of the surface roughness of the surface being less than the Ra value corresponding to #170, the glass base material having a dimensional ratio in a predetermined range with respect to the prism obtained after forming;

grasping the glass base material with a grasp portion of feeding means, and feeding the glass base material into a heating furnace to heat the glass base material to a predetermined temperature so that a minimum viscosity of the glass base material becomes equal to or more than 10^4 and less than 10^6 Pa · s,

drawing and forming a lower portion of the glass base material by drawing means, and then cutting the glass base material into a predetermined length to obtain a longer body having a

substantially similar shape to that of the glass base material and a dimension in a desired range, and having prism surfaces with the Ra value of the surface roughness equal to or less than a quarter of the wavelength of incident light; and

cutting the longer body into desired length.

Claim 6. (original) A method for producing a prism according to claim 5, wherein the prism surfaces of the longer body is polished.

Claim 7. (new) A prism according to claim 2, wherein the prism satisfies a relation of $L \geq 1.5D/2^{0.5}$, where D represents a diameter of a circumscribed circle of a section perpendicular to the prism surfaces, and L represents a length of the prism in a direction parallel to the prism surfaces.

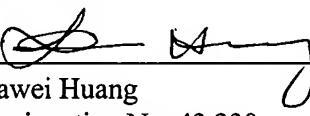
Claim 8. (new) A prism according to claim 2, wherein an optical film is formed on the prism surface.

Claim 9. (new) A prism according to claim 3, wherein an optical film is formed on the prism surface.

No new matter has added through the amendment. Entry of the amendment is requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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